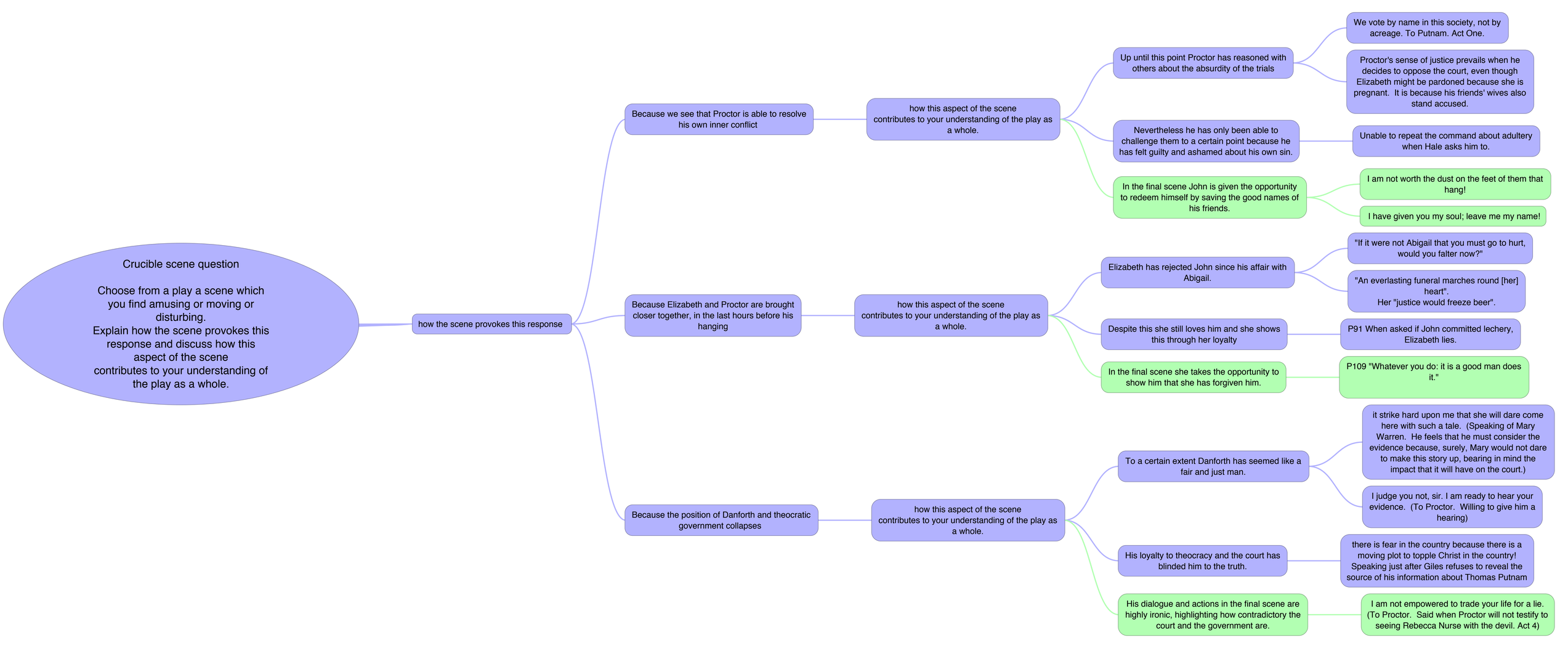
Crucible scene question
Choose from a play a scene which you find amusing or moving or disturbing.
Explain how the scene provokes this response and discuss how this aspect of the scene contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.
how the scene provokes this response
Because we see that Proctor is able to resolve his own inner conflict
how this aspect of the scene contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.
Up until this point Proctor has reasoned with others about the absurdity of the trials
We vote by name in this society, not by acreage. To Putnam. Act One.
Proctor's sense of justice prevails when he decides to oppose the court, even though Elizabeth might be pardoned because she is pregnant. It is because his friends' wives also stand accused.
Nevertheless he has only been able to challenge them to a certain point because he has felt guilty and ashamed about his own sin.
Unable to repeat the command about adultery when Hale asks him to.
In the final scene John is given the opportunity to redeem himself by saving the good names of his friends.
I am not worth the dust on the feet of them that hang!
I have given you my soul; leave me my name!
Because Elizabeth and Proctor are brought closer together, in the last hours before his hanging
how this aspect of the scene contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.
Elizabeth has rejected John since his affair with Abigail.
"If it were not Abigail that you must go to hurt, would you falter now?"
"An everlasting funeral marches round [her] heart".
Her "justice would freeze beer".
Despite this she still loves him and she shows this through her loyalty
P91 When asked if John committed lechery, Elizabeth lies.
In the final scene she takes the opportunity to show him that she has forgiven him.
P109 "Whatever you do: it is a good man does it."
Because the position of Danforth and theocratic government collapses
how this aspect of the scene contributes to your understanding of the play as a whole.
To a certain extent Danforth has seemed like a fair and just man.
it strike hard upon me that she will dare come here with such a tale. (Speaking of Mary Warren. He feels that he must consider the evidence because, surely, Mary would not dare to make this story up, bearing in mind the impact that it will have on the court.)
I judge you not, sir. I am ready to hear your evidence. (To Proctor. Willing to give him a hearing)
His loyalty to theocracy and the court has blinded him to the truth.
there is fear in the country because there is a moving plot to topple Christ in the country! Speaking just after Giles refuses to reveal the source of his information about Thomas Putnam
His dialogue and actions in the final scene are highly ironic, highlighting how contradictory the court and the government are.
I am not empowered to trade your life for a lie. (To Proctor. Said when Proctor will not testify to seeing Rebecca Nurse with the devil. Act 4)